



The Arlington Advocate

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Miriam and Will Stein sing "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration program on Monday at the First Baptist Church in Arlington.

Honoring King's life and legacy

More than 250 people turn out for program at First Baptist Church

By Robin Robinson
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

More than 250 people turned out for the seventh annual celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday held Monday at the First Baptist Church on Massachusetts Avenue.

After sharing a potluck supper, the crowd was entertained by a musical presentation by area saxophonist Alphonso Thomas and keyboard/vocalist Linda Brown. The two gospel musicians performed renditions of Martin Luther King's favorite hymns, "Our Precious Lord," and "Amazing Grace." After a standing ovation, Thomas and Brown played a moving en-

core of "Thank You Lord."

The guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, an associate minister of the Union Baptist Church in Cambridge and the MacArthur associate professor of African-American studies and sociology at Colby College, Waterville, Maine. Her research, teaching and writing focus on race relations, religious traditions, African-American women and social change.

In her speech, the Cambridge resident quoted actor Carroll O'Connor, who stated, "We have to do something about these guys who are living off the tears of the land." O'Connor was speaking in reference to convicted drug dealers who received le-

nient sentences. After his son committed suicide, O'Connor pointed police to the drug dealer who was selling to his son. Recently convicted of possession of powder cocaine, Gilkes said the dealer will probably serve a year, maybe less, because it is his first conviction.

"This invitation of tears is an invitation to struggle," said Gilkes. "Martin Luther King Jr., through his work and leadership, changed my life. He changed all our lives. But I wouldn't want to answer to King for the state of the world today."

Using childhood memories of growing up in Cambridge and spending summers with her MLK, see page 4A.



Guest speaker Cheryl Townsend Gilkes said she would not want to report to King on the current state of the world.

RECYCLING ROUTE

NEXT WEEK

NEWS/OPINION

■ STRANGE ODOR: A wing at Ottoson Middle School has been closed because of a strange odor, the source of which has not been traced. See page 7A for details.

■ ICE FISHING: Guest writer Jed O'Conner writes about ice fishing on Spy Pond, including the tale of one that didn't get away. See page 9A.

■ EMT FUND: Armstrong Ambulance personnel are among the friends who are trying to raise funds for Mike Bottary, a former Armstrong EMT who was paralyzed in a car accident. See page 5B for the story.

SPORTS

■ HOCKEY: Both Arlington High and Arlington Catholic played key league games this weekend, and both teams came up big winners. The Spy Ponders beat the Revere Patriots while the Cougars of Arlington Catholic topped Matignon.

■ YOUTH: Arlington youth hockey teams recently competed in tournaments.

For these stories and other sports events in and around the community, please turn to the B-section of this week's Arlington Advocate.

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School land vote set for next week

By Liz Buchanan
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

School Committee Chairman Michael Healy announced Tuesday that he will ask for a final vote on the Stop & Shop land issue next Tuesday, January 23.

The School Committee is involved in the issue because Stop & Shop is seeking to purchase land which is now part of Arlington High School's grounds in order to expand its Massachusetts Avenue store. The committee must decide whether the 1.37-acre parcel is surplus, and therefore available for sale.

The Committee has actively debated Stop & Shop's latest proposal since August. The new proposal followed an April referendum in which the town's voters rejected a non-binding proposal to declare

school property surplus for a 60,000 square foot store.

However, in December the issue was complicated by a report that high levels of chromium have been found buried on the land.

Healy said the town is still in the process of gathering information on the toxic-waste issue.

"That will be an issue that will affect this decision," Healy said.

Healy also said he expects the outside counsel, hired by the Committee to review legal issues of the sale, to report back next week with further information the committee has requested.

"What the committee does with this issue is of course their concern, but there will be a vote," Healy said.

Local legislators back environmental bills

By Patrick McGee
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Environmental activists rang in the new year with a bit less celebration than usual as they looked back on 12 months that brought not one new environmental law to Massachusetts. Despite their disappointment with the Statehouse, environmentalists have taken heart in the support of Arlington's legislators.

Sen. Robert Havern and Reps. Anne Paulsen and Jim Marzilli, all Democrats, repeatedly supported the "rivers' bill" and "open space bond bill." The two bills, which have been shifting around in the Legislature for several years, would bring major changes in public policy if signed into law.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society recently released a "report card" of senators and gave Havern a 100 percent rating on voting on environmental issues in 1995. The Audubon Society did not rate House members, but Paulsen and Marzilli probably would have received high ratings because they supported the open space and rivers' bill. Other environmental

groups vouched for Paulsen and Marzilli as outstanding environmental activists.

Paul Wingle, the legislative director of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, said Havern has been on environmentalists' side when votes were taken but that Paulsen and Marzilli have been the true activists, working to push bills forward.

"When you look at the two House people in particular, you're looking at two people who are pushing for environmental protections," Wingle said. "The environmental community has relied on those two for help and they've come through each and every time."

The rivers' bill would create a buffer zone prohibiting building within 150 feet of rivers and streams. Cities and towns with more than 7,000 people per square mile — such as Arlington — would only have to limit building within 25 feet of rivers and streams.

After being passed by the Senate, the rivers' bill is currently in the House Ways and Means Committee, where environmentalists accuse Chair Thomas Finneran.

ENVIRONMENT, see page 5A.

Election '96 AT A GLANCE

Seats open

Selectmen:

Charles Lyons and

Stephen J. Gilligan.

Town Treasurer:

John J. Bilafer.

School Committee:

Barbara C. Goodman

Martin Thrope

Carolyn E. Simmons.

Board of Assessors:

Maurice H. O'Connell.

Town meeting:

81 seats.

Town clerk:

Corinne Rainville

Important dates

Feb. 9 — Last day for obtaining blank nomination papers.

Feb. 12 — Last day to submit nomination papers.

Feb. 14 — Last day to register to vote for presidential primary.

March 5 — Presidential primary.

March 11 — Last day to register to vote in town election.

March 30 — Town election.

SJC to decide local tax case

Arguments heard Friday

By Patrick McGee
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Arlington town counsel John Maher stood in front of the Supreme Judicial Court, the highest court in the state, on Friday and argued a case involving a \$5 tax.

A Nourse Street resident refused to pay the excise tax on a trailer she bought. The case eventually snowballed into a lawsuit, a lawsuit that could, Maher said, cost cities and towns in the state millions of dollars if the SJC rules against Arlington.

Susan Wright refused to pay a \$5 tax after being notified twice that the fee was due. She and her attorney argued that two more steps should have been taken to notify her before her license was suspended by the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Maher pointed out that if Wright wins the seemingly minor, case towns and cities will have to take additional steps to notify delin-

quent taxpayers, effectively throwing a great deal of business to tax collection agencies — one of which is owned by Wright's husband, Bruce. He owns Urban Tax Services located in Medford.

The town lost the case in a lower court and then appealed. The Supreme Judicial Court took the case before it could be heard by the Appeals Court. Maher told The Advocate that this is rare and said he believes it is a sign the court will find in favor of the town. He said the court takes about three months to hand down decisions.

Wright did not pay a \$5 excise tax that was mailed to her by Town Treasurer John Bilafer on Aug. 14, 1992.

A demand for payment was mailed on Sept. 17, 1992. She did not pay the delinquent tax and the demand fee. She was mailed a notice of warrant on Oct. 7, 1992, but still did not pay. Her license was suspended and she filed suit SJC, see page 4A.

School system's planned budget up \$1.2 million

By Liz Buchanan
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

The School Committee got a first look at 1996-97 budget numbers Tuesday night, including an increase of \$837,705 for staff salaries.

The salary increases reflect a new contract with teachers which was approved last spring.

Overall, the preliminary budget proposal includes a 5.3 percent increase, or \$1.19 million in new spending. Last year's budget reflected only a 3.6 percent increase over the previous year.

Other major proposed increases include 3.6 new teachers, added Reading Recovery staff, \$50,000 for a telecommunications specialist, and more than \$70,000 in additional funds for special education.

Committee Chairman Michael Healy said the Committee would hold further discussion on the

budget next week, and would probably vote on a final budget proposal January 30.

Several School Committee members expressed concern that the additions in teaching staff might not be sufficient to deal with overcrowding in classes at the high school.

Additions to the teaching staff in the new budget are based solely on anticipated enrollment increases, said Assistant Superintendent John Britt, who presented the report.

The budget would allow for three new teachers at the elementary level, but only a six-tenths-time teacher for the high school.

Committee members said they hope to have a full report on addressing high school class size from Superintendent Kathleen Donovan, who was absent from Tuesday's meeting.

BUDGET, see page 7A.

Selectmen's race begins

By Patrick McGee
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

The race for the two of the seats on the Board of Selectmen became contested earlier this month when a Town Meeting member filed to run against two incumbents.

Paul Schlichtman, of Pleasant Street, hopes to oust either Stephen Gilligan or Charles Lyons, who is chair of the Board.

"I abhor uncontested elections and I think there are enough issues that need to be discussed about the Town of Arlington that we can't afford to have an uncontested election," said Schlichtman, explaining his reason for running.

He cited a number of substantive issues that should be discussed in the campaign — such as school renovations and increased local aid from the state — but few of them fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen. He acknowledged that the Board never votes on these issues, but said a seat on the Board of Selectmen can be used as a "bully pulpit" to push for the town's interests.

SELECTMEN, see page 5A.

TOWN HALL ROUNDUP

will be unveiled and O'Neill's window and other survivors will attend.

O'Neill, a lifelong resident of Arlington who died in 1993, was on the Finance Committee from 1968 until his death. During that time, he served 17 years as the Committee's chairman. He was also a Town Meeting member.

O'Neill, who graduated from Arlington High School in 1943, also served on the Board of Selectmen. He died at 66 after a long battle with cancer.

Election help sought

The Town of Arlington is looking for volunteers to monitor the polls in the upcoming elections of 1996.

People interested in becoming election workers should call the office of the Board of Selectmen at 646-1000 ext. 4060.

Dedication ceremony for O'Neill room

The Board of Selectmen will dedicate the community room at the Public Safety Building in memory of Robert F. O'Neill on Monday, Jan. 22.

The ceremony will take place at the start of the Board's regular meeting, scheduled for 7:15 p.m. at the community room. A plaque

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INSIDE ARLINGTON

Meetings

Thursday, Jan. 18

School Committee policy and procedure subcommittee, 4:30 p.m., School Committee room, sixth level, Arlington High School, 865 Massachusetts Ave.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Arlington Council on Alcohol and Drug Education, 7:30 p.m., meeting room, second floor, Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic St.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Arlington Conservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., second floor conference room, Town Hall Annex

Friday, Jan. 19

Thompson School Council, 3 p.m., Thompson School library, 60 North Union St.

Monday, Jan. 22

Board of Selectmen, 7:30 p.m., meeting room, second floor, Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic St.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

ARLINGTON

20 Brunswick Rd, \$229,000, 12/18/95, Margaret M Earls To Wei-Ping Wang.
9 Colonial Village Dr, \$72,000, 12/19/95, Elizabeth Severance To Kathleen F Ford.
59 Cutler Hill Rd, \$92,000, 12/21/95, Theresa N Kovitch To Elizabeth M Bilafer.
32 Dorothy Rd, \$250,000, 12/07/95, Mary A Hyatt To Albert Dobrushkin.
289 Forest St, \$202,000, 12/18/95, Edward A Johnson To Michael Singer.
90 Jason St, \$350,000, 12/18/95, Wilfred C Malvey To Baozhang He.
6 University Rd, \$180,000, 12/21/95.

Monday, Jan. 22

Redevelopment Board, 8 p.m., second floor conference room, Town Hall Annex (The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the implementation of the recently released Arlington Business Community Study.)

Tuesday, Jan. 23

School Committee, 7:30 p.m., School Committee room, sixth level, Arlington High School, 865 Massachusetts Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Brattell School Council, 7 p.m., teacher's lounge, Brattell School, 66 Eastern Ave.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Human Rights Commission, 8 p.m., Jefferson Cutter House, 1 Whittemore Park

Thursday, Jan. 25

Arlington Historic District Commissions 8 p.m., Jefferson Cutter House, 1 Whittemore Park

Josephine Brigida Tr To Mark L Willims.
6 Woodland St, \$300,000, 12/19/95, 6 Woodland Tr To Raymond B Bander.

BELMONT

219 Brighton St, \$255,000, 12/21/95, Paul B Shortell To Maureen E Wood.
29 Hastings Rd, \$455,000, 12/08/95, G Richard MacDonald To J Jeff Boshar.
283 Marsh St, \$582,000, 12/11/95, Susan G Herrnstein To G Richard MacDonald.
43 Richmond Rd, \$360,000, 12/18/95, Irene F Richard To David S Goldberg.
171 Trapelo Rd, \$250,000, 12/21/95, Marie T Murray To Giacomo Chiacchieri.

CNC sponsors "Pave The Way" brick fund raiser

Community Newspaper Company (CNC), publishers of The Arlington Advocate, has announced it has signed on as the media sponsor for "Pave the Way," the Hopkinton Athletic Association's (HAA) major fund-raiser as part of the 100th running of the Boston Marathon.

CNC has agreed to promote the sale of 30,000 commemorative bricks which will be used to pave the walkway on the historic Hopkinton Common—the starting point of the century-old Boston Marathon. CNC will promote the fund-raiser through advertisements in 97 of its newspapers as well as produce official "Pave the Way" certificates—stamped with the Boston Marathon logo—which will validate the purchase of each brick. All sponsors' names will also become part of a permanent record to be kept in Hopkinton near the start of the marathon.

The HAA plans to sell the bricks for \$10 each and all donations will be tax-deductible. Each contribu-

tion will help fund the construction of a new track and field for Hopkinton's youth athletic programs.

"This was really a major opportunity for us to be involved in a worthwhile community project," said Asa Cole, publisher of Community Newspaper Company's Middlesex News. "We're delighted to be involved and hopefully aid in quickly selling all the bricks. The idea that you could buy a brick which will be a permanent memorial and a fund-raiser for community programs is one we're happy to support," Cole added.

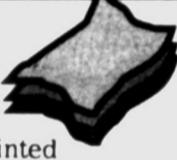
This April 15, 1996 marks the 100th running of the Boston Marathon. Thousands of runners from around the world will gather at the starting line in Hopkinton.

For more information about the HAA fund-raiser or to purchase a brick/s, please write the Hopkinton Athlete Association, Pave the Way, 85A Elm St., Hopkinton, MA 01748. Telephone (508) 435-0438.

er rate increases. Statewide, awards total \$37,929 million compared to \$31,720 million in fiscal year 1995.

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority sewer construction and wastewater treatment projects, including the Deer Island Water Treatment Plant, have lead to sharp increases in water and sewer bills.

When writing letters



Letters submitted for publication in The Arlington Advocate must be typed or printed legibly and must be signed. It is our policy to print only singed letters. We ask that you include your address and home telephone number for confirmation. Phone numbers will not be published.

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INSIDE ARLINGTON



RESPONSES

Rescue and Fire services responded to 99 calls last week, including 3925 rescues, 27 investigations and 10 fire alarms.

■ On Jan. 8 at 3:19 a.m., a 39-year-old woman on Wheaton Road was reported to be suffering from a diabetic reaction. She was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 8 at 6:59 a.m., a 68-year-old man on Randolph Street was reported to be suffering from stomach pains. He was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 8 at 6:41 p.m., a 35-year-old woman on Grove Street was reported to be suffering from an overdose of alcohol. She was

drinking vodka when the ambulance arrived and her husband said he saw her take some pills. She was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 8 at 10:41 p.m., an 82-year-old woman on Park Avenue was reported to have pain in her hip after tripping and falling over a rug. She was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 9 at 8:28 a.m., a 59-year-old man was reported to be suffering from chest pains after shoveling snow on Webcote Road. He was given oxygen and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 9 at 11:43 a.m., a 72-year-old man was reported to have fallen from his porch, landing on his head and temporarily losing consciousness. He complained of back pain and placed in a cervical collar. He was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital.

■ On Jan. 9 at 5:19 p.m., a car accident was reported on Forest

Street. A 26-year-old woman hit her face on the windshield. She was placed in a cervical collar and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 10 at 7:29, a 1986 Dodge was reported to be on fire on Park Avenue Extension. Firefighters quickly put out the small fire that caused \$2,000 worth of damage to the engine.

■ On Jan. 10 at 9:33 a.m., a postal worker collapsed at the Post Office on Court Street. The 56-year-old man suffered from chest pains and feelings of weakness. He was given oxygen and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 11 at 7:42 p.m., a 75-year-old woman was reported to have fallen and vomited. She was given oxygen and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 12 at 5:37 p.m., a Dumpster fire was reported on Old Colony Lane. Firefighters took about 12 minutes to put out the fire.

■ On Jan. 13 at 9:58 a.m., a car accident was reported on Massachusetts Avenue. An 18-year-old woman was reported to be suffering from neck pain. She was placed in a cervical collar and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 13 at 10:28 a.m., the roof of a house on Hancock Street was reported to be sagging under the weight of heavy snow. The weight forced a beam to be forced through the ceiling and the trim of the house was bulging. The family was put up in a hotel by their insurance company.

■ On Jan. 13 at 7:31 p.m., a 31-year-old woman on Dudley Street was reported to be suffering from shortness of breath and an anxiety attack. She was afraid she would pass out. She was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 13 at 10:41 p.m., an 89-year-old woman was reported to have injured her hip when she fell. She was taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

ter at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 14 at 12:33 a.m., a 42-year-old man was reported to have possibly fractured his ribs after slipping on the ice. He was placed in a cervical collar and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

the Medical Center at Symmes.

■ On Jan. 14 at 7:57 a.m., an 83-year-old man was reported to have difficulty breathing. He was given oxygen and taken to the Medical Center at Symmes.

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New 'State Register of Historic Places' now available

The Massachusetts Historical Commission announces that the 1995 edition of the "State Register of Historic Places" (SRHP) is now available. The SRHP is a comprehensive listing of buildings, structures, sites and districts that have received local, state or national designations based on their historical or archaeological significance. The Massachusetts Historical Commission is a division of the Office of Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin.

The publication is for sale at the State Bookstore, State House, Boston. For purchasing information call 727-2834.

Preservation award nominations sought

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin recently announced that nomination forms are now available for the 18th Annual Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Awards. Each year, more than a dozen awards are given to individuals and organizations who have shown their commitment to historic preservation in the commonwealth.

Galvin, chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, is encouraging nominations from all communities across the commonwealth. "The Preservation Awards will honor both large and small preservation efforts, as they all



ARRESTS

■ On Jan. 12 at 10:50 p.m., an officer pulled over a car on Massachusetts Avenue at Mill Street for a motor vehicle violation. The passenger of the car, a 27-year-old Somerville man, was wanted for a default warrant for assault and battery and malicious destruction of property. He was arrested.

■ On Jan. 14 at 1:45 a.m., police went to a Massachusetts Avenue apartment building for a report of a family fight. A resident said that during an argument her husband forcefully grabbed her to prevent her from leaving. The 31-year-old Arlington man was arrested for assault and battery.

THEFT

■ On Jan. 7 a snow blower worth \$1600 and a mountain bike worth \$850 was reported stolen from a garage on Jason Street some time between noon and 5 p.m.

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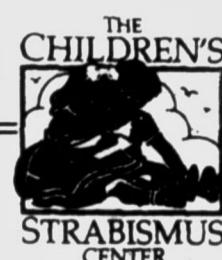
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Sat. 9:30-3 pm Closed Wednesdays

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January 28, 1996, 3 p.m.
PIANO GALA
Virginia Eskin
Roland Nadeau from NPR's "A Note to You"

February 5, 1996, 8 p.m.
LANGSTON HUGHES IN SEARCH OF SOUL

For more information please call (617) 239-4573.

INSIDE ARLINGTON

SJC hears Arlington tax case

SJC, from page 1A.
against Bilafer, as an agent of the town.

Maher stood in front of four SJC justices and argued sending a tax collector to the homes of those who owe is "archaic" and an unnecessary waste of taxpayers money.

Briefly addressing the justices, Maher read from the law that said towns and cities can take additional steps to notify a delinquent tax-

payer — including sending a tax collector to their residence.

"We suggest this is exactly what the law means," he said.

Maher also pointed out that a Boston Globe investigative article uncovered some problems with the private tax collection agencies in Massachusetts.

Wright's attorney, Stanley Wallerstein, argued that not taking the extra steps to notify delinquent taxpayers would penalize people

who unknowingly broke the law. He pointed out that six months after a person moves, the U.S. Post Office stops forwarding mail so the mailing of notices would not reach all people.

"That person never knows until he shows up at the Registry," Wallerstein said, saying the person would have to go through a lot of paper work and delays for an honest mistake.

"We don't think that's what the Legislature intended," he said.

Wallerstein also questioned why his client and other delinquent taxpayers should be charged \$14 for the mere effort of mailing a notice that at the time only needed a 29 cent postage stamp.



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ADVOCATE PHOTO BY GAIL OSKIN

Mamie Rose Orr-Mullane, 3, claps along with the opening music at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day program at First Baptist Church.

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WEIGHT REDUCTION & HEALTH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Monday, January 8, 6 p.m.

A FREE orientation for the LMH Weight Reduction and Health Management Program will be held at the LMH School of Nursing in Medford. The program is medically supervised and designed to help individuals lose weight quickly using a liquid supplement, while learning the skills needed to keep the weight off.

To register, call 395-2260.

NEW! BODY FAT ANALYSIS PROGRAM

Thursday, January 11 in Medford;
Thursday, January 18 in Somerville;
Friday, January 19 in Medford

Body fat analysis can tell you what the scale can't: your lean body mass, your fitness level and your risk for heart disease. The Body Fat Analysis Program uses modern, non-invasive, infrared laser beam technology to accurately measure body fat and provide a preliminary nutritional assessment. The January 11 program will be held at Lawrence Memorial Hospital of Medford; the January 18 program will be held at The Medical Associates at Davis Square in Somerville; and the January 19 program will be held at Lawrence Memorial Medical Services in Medford. To register for any of the programs, call 396-9250, x1432.

"CALLING IT QUIT'S" SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAM

Thursday, January 11, 6:00 p.m.

A FREE orientation for "Calling It Quits" will be held at the LMH School of Nursing in Medford. "Calling It Quits" is a comprehensive program with an eight-week quitting phase, weekly behavioral sessions, instruction in the use of nicotine replacement, and a 12-month maintenance phase for continued support.

To register, call 395-2260.

STRATEGIES FOR STRESS MANAGEMENT

Mondays, Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

This three-session course, held at the LMH School of Nursing in Medford, teaches participants how to recognize sources of stress in their life and the physical signs and symptoms of stress. Led by a licensed social worker, participants learn methods of coping with stress, such as relaxation techniques, time management, exercise, assertiveness training, attitude change, nutrition and better health habits. Individualized plans for positively dealing with stress are developed.

To register, call 396-9250, x1335.

NUTRITION WORKS

Tuesdays, Jan. 16 - March 19, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

Nutrition Works helps participants lose weight gradually while learning the skills needed to keep off the weight. The course includes a nutritionally-sound low-calorie, low-fat meal plan; nutrition education on current topics of interest and controversy; and behavior modification techniques. To register, please call 396-9250, x1432.

ADULT (LEVEL A) CPR COURSE

Wednesdays, January 10 & 17, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

This two-session course teaches one-person CPR and obstructed airway management for adults and provides one-year certification from the American Heart Association. To register, call 396-9250, x1633.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Thursdays, Jan. 18 - March 7, 10 a.m. - noon

"I Can Cope" is a FREE series of educational classes for people with cancer, their families and friends. Co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society, this program helps people meet the challenge of living with cancer by clarifying cancer facts and myths, and by helping participants understand and cope with their feelings.

To register, call 396-9250, x482.

MLK Day celebrated

MLK, from page 1A.

grandmother in Pennsylvania, Gilkes drove home the point that although progress has been made, we still live in a world of suffering.

"I live better than the vast majority of society. My grandmother, who prepared me for opportunity and success, never flew on an airplane. I have more frequent flyer miles than I can use. My grandmother never owned a credit card. I have too many... Yet 50 years after the Holocaust, and 50 years after racism has supposedly left us, 50 years after we were challenged to say 'never again'... we still have Bosnia... Somalia... the Kuwait liberation showed us that slavery was still alive and well. No, I would not want to face Dr. King right now."

Gilkes criticized large corporations, like Time Warner, and the justice system for demeaning, dismissing and depriving the poor in our country. Gilkes stated that Time Warner is "living off the tears of the land," by making large profits and propagating a stereotype from marketing gangsta rap.

"We are using our prisons to solve our social problems," she said as she attacked the justice system. "Congress is punishing the children and the poor by holding back. What would Dr. King think?" she asked.

"There's no hiding place from the invitation of tears," she concluded. "We must all participate in the healing."

As Gilkes took her seat following a standing ovation, Arlington resident Claire Mayton leaned over to her and said, "Dr. King could not have done any better."

EVENTS

Workshop planned

"Understanding Teenage Obnoxiousness," a three-part workshop, offering practical, useful information for parents with teenagers will be held Feb. 1, 8 and 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. at 821 Mass. Ave., Arlington.

In the course, parents will learn why teenagers react negatively to discipline and authority and will learn ways to help teens behave responsibly. Other topics include chores, school work, sibling rivalry, alcohol and drug use, tempers, dating and peers. Parents will be able to develop a plan for resolving specific discipline problems within their own families.

The workshop leader is family therapist Howard C. Wolfe, who has been working with teenagers since 1970 and finds them both delightful and challenging. Wolfe first worked with teens in drug prevention programs in high schools and as a street counselor. For three years he was on the faculty of the Center for Youth Development and Research at the University of Minnesota. He has served as a consultant and trainer on youth development and youth problems for dozens of school systems and youth programs around the country.

For registration and information call 643-7272. The fee for the workshop is \$40 per person or \$60 per couple.

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INSIDE ARLINGTON

Lawmakers pro environment

ENVIRONMENT, from page 1A.

D-Boston, of keeping it "bottled up." Marzilli and Paulsen, along with 83 other representatives, signed a letter to Finneran asking him to release the bill for a vote.

"They both signed the letter. That to us is an indication of the strongest supporters," said Paul Burns of Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group, an environmental activist group. "That's really putting their necks out on behalf of the environment."

Marzilli, a co-sponsor of the bill, said river protection is desperately needed in Massachusetts because the rivers have been used longer than in other states.

"I think the House Ways and Means Committee should report the bill out in its strongest possible form. The rivers of the Commonwealth are in grave condition," he said adding that, in his belief, enough protection for landowners has been written into the bill when the Senate passed it.

Paulsen said her stint on the Massachusetts Water Resource

Authority advisory board taught her that cleaner rivers would enhance the cleanup of Boston Harbor — and that is one of the reasons she strongly supports the rivers' bill.

"I believe that maintaining the borders of the rivers and streams is very important. It's a low tech way of maintaining the quality," Paulsen said.

Havern agreed that the rivers bill would complement ongoing cleanups.

"The rivers' bill is a very important bill because we can't spend billions of dollars trying to keep the waters clean if, in fact, we're soiling it while we develop," Havern said. He said he also believes the bill has enough protection for landowners in it.

The open space bond bill would allocate over \$500 million to cities and towns to buy open space for reserves and public parks.

Havern pointed out that bill, if passed, would allow cities and towns to buy open space when they would otherwise be beaten out by

private groups or individuals who would not be slowed by waiting for a legislative session to appropriate the money.

"The open space bond bill is, I think, one of the most advantageous things for those who support environmental concerns," he said.

Environmental groups support the open space bond bill but strongly object to a provision that would allow hunting and fishing on public lands unless cities and towns successfully petition against it. The provision was added in the Senate.

"I think that was an extraordinarily bad call by the Senate," Marzilli said, explaining that he feels people must feel safe on public land.

Paulsen also expressed some objection to the provision.

"The fishing I really don't object to. The hunting I'm very concerned about," she said.

Havern said he has not studied that provision yet and does not know how he will stand on it.

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ARLINGTON NEWS

Wright accepted at U. of Wyoming

Robert Wright of Arlington, a senior at St. Sebastian's School in Needham, was recently offered acceptance to the class of 2000 at the University of Wyoming. He is the son of Bruce and Susan Wright.



Robert Wright

Ryder will begin basic training in Oklahoma

Christopher P. Ryder has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Enlistment Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Lowell.

The Delayed Enlistment Program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay enlistment into the Army for up to one year before reporting to basic military training.

The enlistment gives new soldiers the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$30,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Ryder, a 1995 graduate of Benson High School, Omaha, Neb., will report to Fort Sill, Okla., for military basic training, Jan. 30.

He is the son of David W. and Betsy C. Ryder of Arlington.

Public dials attorney McDonald for free

Arlington attorney Paul J. McDonald recently participated in

the Massachusetts Bar Association's Dial-a-Lawyer program. The program was held at Suffolk University in Boston, which co-sponsored the event. McDonald was one of more than 40 Massachusetts attorneys who volunteered to answer legal questions from the public.

Questions ranged from divorce and custody issues to sexual harassment, workers' compensation, spousal abuse and landlord-tenant disputes. More than 1,000 callers received free legal help during the two day event.

McDonald maintains his own law practice in Lexington.

Panaggio receives achievement medal

Marine Sgt. Mark A. Panaggio, son of Margaret Tildsley of Arlington, recently received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Panaggio was recognized for his achievement while serving as automated requisition clerk with Inspector and Instructor Staff, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Force Service Support Group, Portland, Ore. Panaggio was sin-

gle out for the award because of his initiative and contribution in helping the command fulfill its mission.

With a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Panaggio joins a group of men and women who have demonstrated their ability to excel in serving on the Navy-Marine Corps team.

Panaggio, a 1988 graduate of Arlington High School joined the Marine Corps in July 1988.

Arlington gets aid for preschool education

Sen. Robert A. Havern (D-Arlington) announces that the Department of Education has awarded a \$251,981 contract to support the Community Partnerships for Children program for the communities of Arlington, Burlington, Lexington and Belmont. The Community Partnerships for Children program increases the affordability, accessibility and quality of preschool care and education for 3- and 4-year-old children of working families of diverse cultural, linguistic and economic backgrounds. Statewide, the program received a \$10 million increase in

funding for fiscal year 1996.

"Today's emphasis on quality education is a major investment in our future. Young minds are our most important resource, we need to promote their development," said Havern.

Ferrarini becomes account executive

Arlington resident Elizabeth Ferrarini has been named account executive with Harpell/Martins Public Relations. Prior to joining Harpell/Martins Public Relations, Ferrarini

worked for Parker Nichols & Company where she co-founded its World Wide Web consulting firm.

Arlingtonian elected hospital president

Arlington resident Robert G. Leone, M.D. has recently been elected medical staff president at Boston Regional Medical Center in Stoneham. Leone's specialty is diagnostic radiology. He also serves as the Medical Center's chief of radiology.



Arlington resident Dr. Robert Leone was recently elected medical staff president at Boston Regional Medical Center in Stoneham.

"I've got an appointment with who?"

If making a dental appointment for your baby is a surprising idea, remember that most serious injuries to children's teeth happen before the age of three, and that any injury to "baby" teeth may cause infection, pain or damage to the forming permanent teeth. That's just one reason why the first dental appointment should be soon after most of your child's primary teeth have appeared. Our office will not only correct existing problems, but also help you prevent new ones from developing through a program of oral hygiene, good nutrition and regular preventive visits. Want to know more? Give us a call - we'll help you discover why going to the dentist is definitely for babies!

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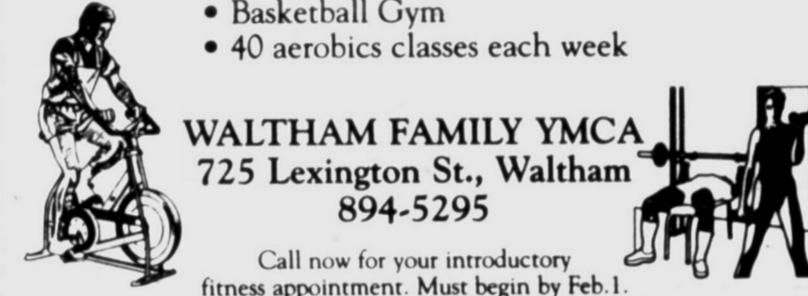
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Wednesday, January 3;

Wednesday, February 7;

Wednesday, March 6.

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Raymond Murano, D.P.M.

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INSIDE ARLINGTON

ROLL CALL

BEACON HILL ROLL CALL
Volume 23-Report No. 2
Massachusetts House and Senate
Jan. 12, 1996

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. BEACON HILL ROLL CALL continues its series on legislation approved by the House and Senate on roll call votes during the 1995 session and signed into law by Gov. Weld. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

JOINT RULES (S 1913) — House 152-1, Senate 26-11, approved a package of joint legislative rules for the 1995-96 session. The package includes a provision requiring that all formal business of the 1995 legislature be concluded by Nov. 15 and formal business of the 1996 session be finished by July 31. Another provision that any bill pending at the end of the 1995 session be carried over into 1996. The governor's signature is not required on legislative rules packages.

A Yes vote is for the rules package. A No vote is against the rules package.

Rep. Jim Marzilli voted yes.
Rep. Anne M. Paulsen voted yes.
Sen. Robert Havern voted yes.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE (H 5190) — House 138-0, Senate 34-0, approved and Gov. Weld signed a capital outlay package providing the \$54 million for a new state of the art computer system for the Department of Social Services.

A Yes vote is for the \$54 million package.

Marzilli voted yes.
Paulsen voted yes.
Havern voted yes.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 5398) — House 148-0, Senate 35-0, approved and Gov. Weld signed a fiscal 1996 supplemental budget including \$4 million for the upgrading of information and collection systems in the tax division of the Department of Revenue (DOR). The bill will allow DOR to purchase new computer and telecommunications equipment.

A Yes vote is for the bill.
Marzilli voted yes.
Paulsen voted yes.
Havern voted yes.

COURT JUDGMENTS/STATE POLICE (S 2124) — House 151-0, Senate 39-0, approved and Gov. Weld signed a \$15 million bond package allowing the state to pay some court judgments for land takings. The bill also includes a section which takes away from the State Police the security and parking enforcement duties in and around the state house and assigns those duties to unarmed park rangers from the Metropolitan District Commission.

A Yes vote is for the bill.
Marzilli voted yes.
Paulsen voted yes.
Havern voted yes.

CAPITAL PROJECTS (H 5652) — House 153-0, Senate 38-0, approved and Gov. Weld signed a \$270 million plus bond package authorizing the state to borrow money for various "emergency capital projects." Provisions include \$48 million for a 600-cell central lock-up facility in Suffolk County for defendants awaiting arraignment and \$100 million for the Department of Environmental Protection for hazardous waste cleanup.

A Yes vote is for the bill.
Marzilli voted yes.
Paulsen voted yes.
Havern did not vote.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING (H 5628, S 2117) — House 148-0, Senate 39-0, approved different versions of a fiscal 1996 supplemental budget. Gov. Weld signed a letter version which includes \$247.100 for the Reggie Lewis track and athletic center at Roxbury Community College and \$4.4 million for case management services in the Department of Social Services.

A Yes vote is for the budget.
Marzilli voted yes.
Paulsen did not vote.
Havern voted yes.

ASSAULT PUBLIC OFFICIALS (H 5248) — The Criminal Justice Committee is considering legislation increasing the jail sentence for anyone convicted of assault and battery upon a public employee in the perfor-

mance of his duties. The proposal increases the jail sentence for anyone convicted of assault and battery upon a public employee in the performance of his duties. The proposal increases the minimum sentence from 90 days to 2½ years and the maximum sentence from 2½ years to 5 years. Another provision eliminates a section in the current law which allows imposition of up to a \$5,000 fine instead of a jail sentence. Sponsored by Rep. Mary Jeanette Murray (R-Cohasset).

NO NEW BILLBOARDS (S 415) — The House has shipped off to a study committee a bill banning any new outdoor billboards on the state's highways and roads. Sponsored by Sen. Chip Clancy (D-Lynn).

BAN CIGARETTE SAMPLES (H 1957) — The Senate has given initial approval to a House-approved bill banning the distribution of free cigarettes or other tobacco products for commercial purposes on streets, parks, public grounds, public buildings or other public places in the state. The measure imposes a fine of between \$25 and \$50 on violators. Sponsored by Rep. Daniel Bosley (D-North Adams).

SMALL CLAIMS (S 2129) — The Senate Ways and Means Committee is looking at a bill making it easier for plaintiffs who win small claims suits to collect their money. Provisions include authorizing the state to refuse to renew the licenses of defendants who do not pay and allowing the court to order a defendant's wages to be attached to pay a judgment. Sponsored by Sen. Cheryl Jacques (D-Needham).

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS (H 5719) — The Public Safety Committee is considering legislation requiring school bus drivers to perform daily post-trip inspections of the interior of their buses, including behind and underneath each seat. The measure imposes a \$50 fine on the owner and driver of a bus for failure to perform the inspections. Sponsored by Rep. Christopher Hodgkins (D-Lee).

Coming Up On Beacon Hill

How Long Was This Week's Session?

BEACON HILL ROLL CALL tracks the length of each week's legislative session. During the week of Jan. 8-12, the House met for a total of one hour and 31 minutes, while the Senate met for a total of one hour and 11 minutes.

Monday, Jan. 8. — HOUSE convened at 11 a.m.; adjourned at 11:13 a.m. SENATE convened at 11 a.m.; adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 9. — HOUSE convened at 7 p.m.; adjourned at 8:07 p.m. SENATE convened at 7:15 p.m.; adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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School budget eyed

BUDGET, from page 1A.

Committee member Carolyn Simmons also noted that the budget numbers do not include a line item for increases in teaching assistants. Assistants provide help in classrooms that are extremely large, or include special-needs students. The elementary schools have asked for an increase in the number of teaching assistants for next year.

The proposed budget also includes \$50,000 for moving expenses related to the Ottoson Middle School renovation. These expenses will be reimbursed partially by the state, but Committee members were concerned that the funds might not automatically be refunded to the school budget.

The committee unanimously passed a motion to ask Donovan to look into the disbursement of state funds which come to the town for school renovation.

Britt also reported to the committee on the town Capital Planning Committee's proposed expenditures for the Schools. Britt said that while the school system requested \$535,000, only \$341,000 in school requests for next year have been funded.

The Capitol Planning budget funds maintenance and capital improvement items for every department of the town. Among biggest expenditures approved for next year for the schools are \$100,000 to repair the roof at Peirce School, \$85,000 for new computers for students, and \$25,000 for photocopier leasing.

Several school system requests were deferred to future years, including replacement of floor tiles for asbestos abatement at Dallin and Stratton Schools, improvements in electrical and public address systems and fire alarms at Hardy and Dallin Schools, interior painting and the replacement of underground fuel tanks at Thompson School, and paving of steps and walkways at Stratton School.

Committee member Martin Thrope bemoaned the fact that improvements to the schools does not get higher priority, which in turn affects morale of those who use the schools. Committee member Barbara Goodman added that some of the unfunded maintenance items, such as poor fire alarms and public address systems, represent a "borderline crisis, emergencies waiting to happen."

"We don't have planned maintenance anymore," Committee member William Carey said. "You wouldn't go twenty years without painting your house."

Strange odor at Ottoson

By Liz Buchanan
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

A strange odor in the Ottoson Junior High School caused the evacuation of the school's new wing the week before Christmas, and an air quality research firm is now investigating the matter. Assistant School Superintendent Joanne Gurry said Tuesday night.

The wing of the school under study consists of the rooms numbered in the 800's. The classes in those rooms have been relocated temporarily.

Judie Phelps, a teacher at Ottoson and President of the Arlington Education Association (AEA), said that air quality problems have plagued the Ottoson for twenty years, and for the most part, solutions have been little more than a "band-aid."

Phelps said she does not expect the school system to take any costly action to remediate the air quality problems, but she does want researchers to get all the answers on the matter.

The Ottoson is scheduled for extensive renovations and additions beginning this June.

Phelps said there are also been reports of gas odors and other possible airborne contaminants, as well as continuing problems with the heating system. She added that many of the school's staff members have complained of health problems which could be related to the building's air quality.

Phelps said the AEA has engaged an attorney to help deal with the situation.

Gurry responded that the school system takes the concerns "very seriously." She said that if the current study does not address all the air quality problems, then further studies will be done.

"Whatever it takes, we will do it," Gurry said.

Gurry said that so far, the firm investigating the situation at the school has not found anything to indicate the presence of a substance that might cause health problems.

"We don't have planned maintenance anymore," Committee member William Carey said. "You wouldn't go twenty years without painting your house."

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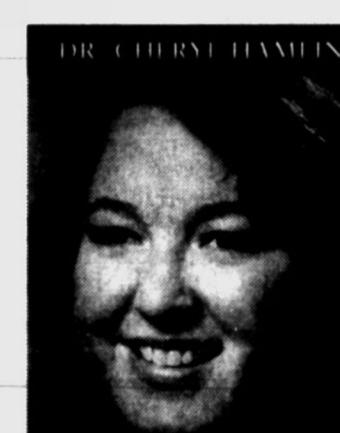
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The Arlington Advocate

COMMENT



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Editorial

Surplus land

Nearly a year ago — in the weeks before residents went to the polls to vote on the non-binding Stop & Shop referendum — we urged readers to support the sale of school land to the supermarket company.

Much has changed since then. Residents voted against the referendum. Stop & Shop returned with a scaled-down version for the supermarket. The School Committee revealed the fact that large quantities of chromium were found on the site, which is a small practice field on the Arlington High School campus.

What hasn't changed is our support for the project. There are a number of factors that make declaring the land surplus the proper decision for the School Committee:

■ **Money** — \$4 million is more than the contaminated land is worth, although it must be noted that Stop & Shop has done little to sweeten the deal, other than to throw in 750,000 bucks for athletic field improvements and up to \$400,000 for traffic mitigation.

■ **School renovations** — If a land sale goes through, it is unlikely that one cent from the sale would go toward renovating Arlington's schools. However, the School Committee might find it hard to sell residents on the idea of hiking taxes to pay for school renovations after turning down the opportunity to make quick cash off of unused land.

■ **Size and plan** — The supermarket chain took many of the complaints raised by neighbors to heart as Stop & Shop officials and town negotiators hammered out a new proposal. It is now a smaller store that requires 30 percent less land than the previous plan. If built, the supermarket would be the chain's first to have all docking and loading facilities underneath the store.

■ **Control** — The School Committee can put conditions on its vote to declare the land surplus. These conditions could include control over when construction is undertaken, when deliveries are made, and other considerations that ensure that student activities at the high school are not affected. If the land is not declared surplus, Stop & Shop has said it will undertake a major expansion at the Massachusetts Avenue store. The School Committee would have no say over when this construction is undertaken.

■ **Shopping** — Supermarket shopping in Arlington is not fun. The two major markets are dingy and lack selection. Residents deserve better.

■ **Traffic** — Anyone who thinks traffic is not already a major problem in the Grove Street area has not tried to make a left turn from Grove onto Massachusetts Avenue from 7 to 9 on a weekday morning. Who's to say that traffic would not increase if Stop & Shop is forced to expand, rather than build a supermarket. The \$400,000 for traffic mitigation will not solve all the area's traffic woes, but it will go a long way toward that goal. Also, there would be no money for traffic mitigation under an expansion plan.

■ **Land need** — Some members of the School Committee feel strongly that school land should not be sold. In a town strapped for open space, this is a legitimate concern. However, we have heard of no other proposals for use of the 1.37-acre tract. As a practice field it sees little use. The high school's athletic department has said it does not need it. The school has more classroom space than it needs now. All population predictions indicate the high school is as large as it will need to be.

If the School Committee votes Tuesday (there's no guarantee it will stick to the latest schedule) and decides to declare the land surplus, a long process of approval-seeking will be set in motion. Before the first grocery item is bought from a supermarket in Arlington, the Selectmen, Redevelopment Board, Town Meeting and several state agencies will be involved in the mix.

It is unlikely the deal the School Committee strikes will be the exact one the Selectmen consider when selling the land. The Selectmen may hold out for an additional million or two before making the sale. Town Meeting members are sure to push for a few changes as well.

If the School Committee makes the right choice and votes to declare the land surplus, it should be ready to fight for the best interests of education in Arlington, but willing to accept some compromises.

MLK Day

Holidays need tradition.

Memorial Day has its parades. Fireworks highlight Independence Day. Labor Day is celebrated with cookouts. Gift giving make Christmas and Hanukkah a favorite for children.

What about Martin Luther King Jr. Day? Like a child entering its school years, the identity of this holiday is slowly emerging.

For the last seven years, Arlington residents have attended a King Day program at the First Baptist Church. Speeches, lectures, educational programs — all attempting to keep alive King's message, as well as the history of his struggle. What a great tradition for our country's newest holiday.

The Arlington Advocate

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I HAVE CONCLUDED...

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THAT THE COFFEE
AT THE STATION IS
WAY TOO STRONG.

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1996 ARINGTON ADVOCATE

Of presidents, princesses and preachers

Besides that it's an election year, it looks like '96 will be remembered for its winter. Down South, they're sledding on pizza boxes; while in Florida, frost sweeps in and overnight turns lush outdoor plantings into so much wilted spinach.

Up North, meanwhile, we've already eaten up our whole helping of snow days. The kids'll be in school 'til day camp opens; and June, already a busy blur of graduations and year-end picnics, will be blurrier yet.

Though June is always like that, come to think of it. When temps inch toward 80 degrees, things blur and the mind mists over. It's now, with school cancellations and early business closings, that things slow down and you can think. I look at my car windshield, its whole length etched in white panes of frost, pale ghosts of those that peek scowly-faced from under April shrubs. I see the little squirrel who, like a high-wire artist, edges toward the tip of the hawthorn branch to reach the bright-

red berries.

I look at all this and I think:

■ Poor Bill and Hillary - what a job living in that fish bowl!

■ Hil' looked good in that sari, though, when she went to India. She took Chelsea with her, who they keep under wraps so.

■ Good for them for doing that.

■ Good for Actress Daryll Hanahan, too, for gaining some weight, though the tabloids say she's "blimped up" after losing young JFK. She looks terrific.

■ And, speaking of weight, what's with this "Need a Shrink?" ad for slimming pantyhose? If there's one thing American women don't need, it's pantyhose made even tighter around the middle.

■ Some call him "Wacko Jacko," but I think Michael Jackson is the most electric performer our country has produced in 30 years. I also think most people forgive him for being a tad strange.

■ They'll never forgive O.J., though, will they?

■ Princess Di, meanwhile, can't

LIFE AND ALL THAT

TERRY MAROTTA



do anything folks won't forgive. I do wish she'd lose the raccoon eyes, though. Leave poor Camilla to the makeover artists, Di. You look good enough as you are.

■ And speaking of eye makeup, I read where Tammy Faye Bakker, who looks as though large spiders have nested on her lids, might be getting back with Reverend Jim.

Good luck to them.

■ Clinton might just win again in '96. Isn't that how we do things here in the U.S.? Kick our public figures around good, then when they're lying bloody in the street, clasp them once again to our hearts?

I met the man last year — heard he was coming, grabbed two kids and waited three hours in the cold, one of us hunched on crutches with a knee the size of a soccer ball. The president arrived at last, spied the crutches, bypassed the Bigshots, and headed straight for her. Tenderly, he held her hand and asked about the surgery. Thrilled, she burbled, "Guess what? I can vote for you in '96!"

"I'm gonna need it!" he smiled, and inched toward the waiting Bigshots.

"I'm voting for the guy," I decided then and there. And heck, while I'm at it, there's a fresh story brewing in the Gulf: I'm voting for all of sleepy January, early closings and high-wire squirrels and all.

Letters to the Editor

Recycling keeps trash costs down

There have been a number of articles in both the Globe and the Advocate on the impact of recycling on Arlington's trash disposal costs. The Arlington recycling committee would like to clarify the economics of recycling and trash disposal in Arlington, and show exactly how recycling saves the town money — and lots of it.

Arlington pays NESWC to incinerate 24,000 tons of trash a year, whether we have and burn the trash or not. Partly because of recycling, Arlington does not send as many tons of trash to NESWC for burning as it must pay for. The town gains, however, from trash it recycles instead of burning, and far more than the added cost of collecting the recyclable materials. These gains have four parts. First, the town gets money from the sale of the recyclables, especially paper. Second, the town sells the incinerator space we own but don't use ourselves — if we use it for our trash, we get nothing back. Third, the state gives us some compensation for NESWC charges based in part on how well our recycling program does; this compensation can only be used for recycling-related costs, but benefits the town. Finally, the town benefits generally from the improvement in the environment supported by recycling rather than incineration of trash.

The cost per ton (tipping fee) Arlington must pay NESWC has and will continue to go up, especially with mandatory new pollution

control equipment. The only way we can keep our trash disposal costs from going up as well is to increase our recycling. Increasing the recycling rate will give us some revenue to offset the increase in the NESWC tonnage charges. Without increased recycling, especially of paper, Arlington's net trash disposal costs can only go up as the NESWC rates increase. If we increase our recycling, we can better stabilize our net trash disposal costs.

Almost all kinds of paper can now be included in with your newspapers for recycling. The only paper or cardboard that cannot go into the newspaper recycling is paper towels, tissues, and foil/paper containers. Cardboard boxes should be cut or folded down to fit into the blue bin compactly. The Recycling Committee hopes Arlington residents will increase their recycling — it helps us all out.

Freeland Abbott
Madison Avenue
Recycling Committee

Good Neighbors
remains non-political
To the editor:

We are writing in response to recent letters from Ms. Robin Dratch and Mr. Anthony Bernacchi. These letters were detrimental and demeaning to George Laite.

We have been members of the East Arlington Good Neighbor Committee since its inception in 1986. We are a non-political group, never swayed by George Laite in any way. We are also a politically diverse group consisting of Demo-

ocrats, Republicans and Independent voters. George Laite has done nothing but good things for East Arlington. Prior to George Laite, we had very little representation.

Yes, God forbid, Anthony, if we had McDonald's. It would do nothing but add to the traffic congestion at the intersection of Mass. Ave. and Route 16, plus many other problems a business of this type could create.

Anthony, we know you are an intelligent boy. When you are old enough to vote, you may be an asset to the community. Meanwhile, we are happy to have George Laite as our chairman. He has been honest and above-board in all our endeavors.

Linda D'Addario
Fairmont Street

Lorraine Pollander
Lafayette Street

Ed and Tessie Nadeau
Lafayette Street

Laite was catalyst for 'something good'

To the editor:

The Jan. 4 issue of the Arlington Advocate printed a letter to the editor. The letter was puzzling to me. Perhaps the writer or author equated Arlington elections politics with the functions of the East Arlington Good Neighbor Committee. That's like mixing apples and oranges.

Like Topsy, the committee just grew. It served a need in Arlington.

George Laite was the catalyst. A catalyst is an agent of change. As

the words to a song go, "This must be the start of something good."

Where else but in East Arlington would such a movement originate? The older residents are deeply rooted. They and the other residents (including the more recent ones) are knowledgeable. They recognize the value of such people to a town.

I'm an East Arlington resident. East Arlington gets the long overdue recognition it deserves.

Our secret is that we knew it all along!

Ann Avakian
Mass. Ave.

Editorial recognized potential abuses

To the editor:

"Family problems," an editorial in the Advocate (Jan. 4), is a sensible response to a well-intentioned proposal to end domestic violence. The misuse of legal procedures for purposes different than intended by the legislators is nothing new. But the amount of abuse of victims by lawyers, courts and the police is getting to be the rule rather than the exception.

George Bernard Shaw noted that "The Road to Hell is paved with good intentions." Domestic abuse is an evil that merits attention. But legal abuse by deceitful litigants and their attorneys is a far greater evil, and should not be facilitated.

It is encouraging that the editorial recognized and condemned potential abuses.

Roy Bercow
Cambridge

LETTERS, see page 9A.

COMMENT

Guest Column

Fishing with the Icemen

By Jed O'Connor

It happens to me as soon as I see fishermen out on the first ice of the season. I call these die-hard anglers of winter "icemen." Impulsively drawn to find out how they're doing, I've been known to pull over to the side of the road, leave the warmth of my car, and work my way cautiously to where they're working, jigging rods and eyeing their tip-ups. Observation and a few minutes of conversation, taking all I'm told with a grain of salt, convince me that the ice is safe and set my weekend plans in motion.

This year, I didn't stop when I saw the icemen, but knew I'd be with them on Sunday morning. Fresh off a holiday party and a 2 a.m. bedtime, I awoke with a start. Fighting off the sluggishness caused by ample portions of food and drink the night before, I collected my gear and made for the Arlington Bait Store. Supplied with meal worms and shiners, I was at Spy Pond by 8 a.m. The proprietor also sold me on taking some squid, an unusual freshwater ice fishing bait. He confided that the icemen were using thin strips of squid impaled on the business end of a small, lead-headed jig and getting great results, especially for large calico bass.

Morning clouds were breaking, there was no wind, and the temperature was in the low 30s. A few years earlier, I had gotten frostbitten fingers participating in an ice fishing derby on Forge Pond in Westford, so these were ideal conditions for me. Even though the day was calm, I donned my snowmobile outfit. Its one-piece composition far surpasses layered clothing and the small of my back never gets a chill.

The icemen, however, swear by low temperatures and a good, stiff wind. They say it not only cuts down on fishing competition, but the fish bite better. There may be something to what they say, since the wind constantly agitates the tip-ups and the shiners may actually have more movement.

It's a safe bet that where the icemen are, the fish are too. A half-dozen anglers were congregated in a section of the pond I had casually explored the previous winter. Stepping onto the ice, I counted more than 20 bright red and orange flags spread over an area the size of a football field. These tip-up rigs have a spool of line that rests just under water and a delicate trigger that allows the flag, set at a 6 o'clock position, to flip to noon and flutter in the breeze when the bait is grabbed. The shiners used for bait are lowered to any desirable depth before the flag is set on its mark, ready to be activated.

I set out four tip-ups at a respectable distance to their left, in 12 to 15 feet of water, and lowered my shiners to six inches off the bottom. I then augured a few more holes for jigging with my lightweight conventional rod. Anglers are allowed to use no more than five holes at a time, and many icemen use the four and one system.

The warmth of the sun eased the temperature a few degrees higher, making gloves unnecessary, and the waiting for action comfortably relaxing.

Using a Swedish Pimple lure with an attached meal worm, I got slow but consistent action from panfish. I released four bluegills before my first flag popped up. I moved to the hole quickly, but the

line was now still, indicating that the fish had grabbed the shiner and run a few feet before dropping the bait. Twenty minutes later, the same thing happened.

Because there was slow action on the tip-ups, two of the icemen sauntered over to my flag. Crouched on one knee, I looked up at them and shrugged no luck. As I stood, the flag immediately behind me shot into the air. In seconds, I was there and saw the spool still spinning. Not waiting for the fish to drop the bait, I took the line and set the hook with a firm snap of my wrist. The resistance told me the fish was heavy.

The icemen were skeptical about my quick action. The accepted practice gives the fish time to run with the bait, scale it, and swallow it. Since pike, pickerel, and tiger muskie scale their prey before swallowing, most fishermen prefer to give the unknown quarry time to ingest their meal. I tried to contain my excitement so as to not appear an amateur, as I simply stated that the fish felt like a good one.

When I hauled the bass out of the hole, it looked huge. The onlookers guessed the weight to be in the five-to-six pound range, while I was more conservative with a three-and-a-half pound estimate. I was feeling proud with my first bass through the ice a prize catch.

As the day neared noon, it was time for me and my pride to move aside. The icemen had been periodically running to their flags when they signaled, but with no luck. The bait was usually dropped when they arrived at the hole. On one of their runs, they hit the jackpot. Whoops and hollers resounded across the sea of ice and snow as the bass was lifted onto the ice.

Now it was my turn to walk over and admire the bass whose tail dragged on the ice when it was held knee high.

Before quitting about noon, something a true iceman would never dream of doing, I got another surprise. The panfish were biting so lightly and stealing my meal worms so regularly that I abandoned using them. Jigging with my bare red-and-silver Swedish Pimple, I still caught two more bluegill. Then my rod doubled over, as if I were snagged on the bottom, but the bucking motion on the end of my line told me it was a fish. I was just as thrilled with the two-and-a-half pound bass I finally slid onto the ice as I was with the first I caught.

I went back the next morning and in three hours got only two bites, producing one small bass, which I released. The panfish weren't responding to meal worms either. That's how it goes with fishing, no matter what time of year, though it's noticed more when fishing through the ice. If you hit it right, there are days of constant action running from flag to flag.

I couldn't have been more pleased with the results of my initial ice fishing outing of the season. A big bass first time out was all I needed to be firmly hooked on this unique winter sport once again. I anticipate two more months of action with the icemen, those Nanooks of the north who fish every chance they get. Through March, my gear will be stowed ready for action in the trunk of my car, as I savor those weekends with calm, 30 degree weather!

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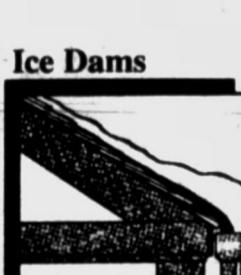
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How federal cuts would affect our schools

By Barbara C. Goodman

The Republican-controlled Congress has proposed broad cuts in the education budget. What federal aid does Arlington receive? How would these cuts affect our schools?

1. Title I funds are used to provide remedial instruction in school districts that meet certain federal economic criteria. The Arlington Public Schools receive \$230,000. We use this money primarily to help students from kindergarten to third grade who have difficulty learning basic skills. One hundred thirty students at the Hardy, Peirce, and Thompson Schools get intensive individual and small group instruction in reading and mathematics. To help them have a better chance of succeeding in first grade, about 12 youngsters who are having difficulty adjusting to kindergarten participate in an extended day program, a summer program, or both. Research consistently shows that early intervention often prevents more serious problems and reduces the need for more costly programs when the children get older. Chapter I funds are a good investment in our children.

2. We receive \$292,000 through P.L. 94-142. This money is used to provide classroom instruction, as well as speech and language and occupational therapy, to about 125 special-needs students. Through this grant, we offer workshops to special and regular education staff on how to teach and support disabled students within the mainstream. Most of these services are mandated under Chapter 766 (a Massachusetts law). If we were to lose all or part of P.L. 94-142 funding, we would still be required to

provide these programs. Money to do so would have to come from within our budget — most likely by cutting other programs.

3. Our Early Childhood Allocation is about \$55,000. We use most of this money to identify and diagnose young children at risk for significant learning problems. We evaluate 3- and 4-year-olds who are referred to us by parents, physicians or other professionals; we then recommend appropriate services and monitor student progress closely. In addition, we screen all students in kindergarten for possible learning problems. Funds from this grant are also used to educate parents on how to help and support their children at home. This early identification and intervention has a significant positive impact on future school success.

4. Recently, Arlington Public Schools was awarded a Goals 2000 Grant of \$50,000 for professional development. In collaboration with Boston and Emmanuel Colleges, our elementary school

Guest Column

teachers receive extensive training and practice in the use of new strategies and tools, including up-to-date technology, to enhance learning for students at all levels of ability. If federal funding is maintained, we could expect to renew this grant for up to three years. Without the grant, our teachers would lose this opportunity to update their teaching skills.

5. Every year, our schools offer dozens of drug education programs to students, parents, and staff. Through the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Community Grant, we receive \$22,258 to develop, coordinate, and supervise these programs. The prevention of substance abuse and chemical dependency is continuously emphasized.

Through this grant, we train student leaders to be positive role models and to educate younger pupils. Funds are used to advise the Arlington Chapter of Students Against Drunk Driving (S.A.D.D.) — the largest one in the state. And we use some of the money to sup-

port the activities of students, parents, and staff as they work with other community agencies to devise new solutions to the drug and alcohol problems among adolescents.

6. Our METCO program is fully funded through a \$190,000 grant. The money is used to transport about 85 students from Boston and to offer them academic, counseling, and guidance services. We could not support this program without these funds.

7. We receive partial federal reimbursement for our school lunch program. In addition, based on economic need, about 500 students receive meals free or at reduced price. This program provides a safety net for families in crisis and ensures that children do not come to class hungry.

I have highlighted seven areas that could be significantly impacted if federal funds were reduced or eliminated. Though there are inefficiencies and abuses within the federal bureaucracy, there are also programs that effectively invest in children and support families. Our schools are an example of some of the best uses of taxpayers' money.

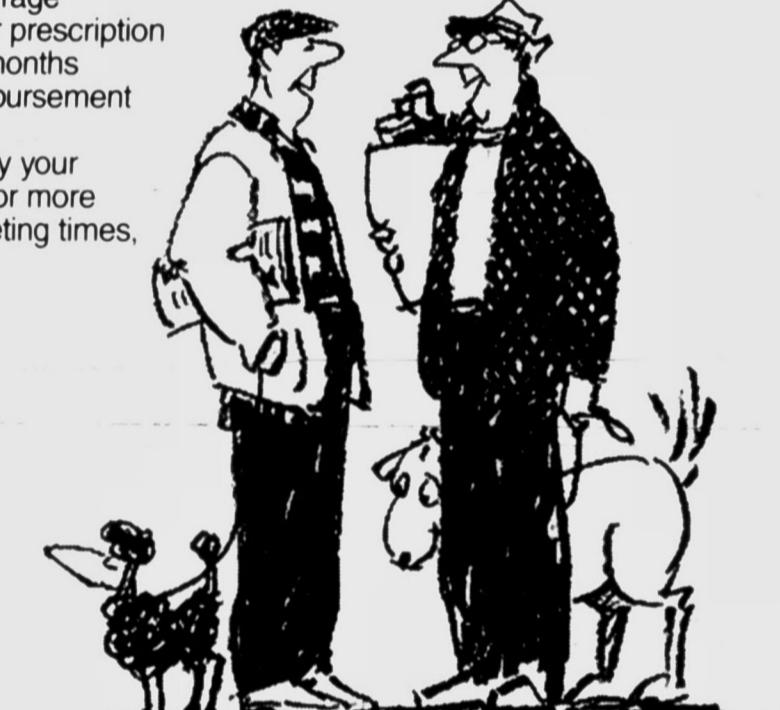
Goodman is a member of the Arlington School Committee.

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Friday, January 26, 10:00 am

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INSIDE ARLINGTON

MAN OF VISION



Arlington resident Frank Privitera, right, is shown here accepting a "Man of Vision" award from John F. Zamparelli, at Prevent Blindness Massachusetts' 30th anniversary banquet held recently at the Belmont Country Club. The award is present to people who have demonstrated visionary achievements in their professional careers and in philanthropic and civil service. Privitera was honored for his numerous benefactions to religious and educational institutions, his achievements as a developer of real estate project and his decades of community service.

School bell rings for Arlington adults

From crochet to computers, Community Education classes attract students

By Robin Robinson
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

Arlington Community Education begins another successful year with approximately 1,000 registrations for the upcoming session. A self-supporting program in existence since before there were seven-digit phone numbers, Arlington Community Education offers an average of 75 to 100 day and evening classes, held usually at Arlington High School.

Jim Brown, 10-year director of the program, said that several factors attribute to the program's success.

Brown's decision to open enrollment to residents outside the town of Arlington provides more students to take the courses.

"We get a lot of people from Somerville, Belmont, Lexington and Cambridge," he said.

Also, the program offers a wide variety of quality courses that are relatively inexpensive, according to Brown.

"Knitting, cake decorating, and art classes used to be very successful. Now, we are offering classes like 'Find your own career path,' or 'How to build a consulting practice.'"

Some courses are very selective, and do not appeal to everyone. For example, the one-night class on "Attention Deficit Disorder" is pertinent to a very small number of people. However other courses, like the computer classes, "fill three times over."

Brown said it is just luck when the program hits on a class that brings in enrollment. "You can never be a judge of what will fill," he said. "Someone might come to me and say, 'I want to teach windsailing,' and I'd say, 'Windsailing? That will never go,' and it fills up right away."

Another asset to the program is the instructors. "We have good instructors. If instructors are not good, they don't stay with us. We make that known," Brown said. "If you have a course with a lot of interest, but a bad instructor, it doesn't mix."

The community education program is officially part of the public school system, although it does not receive money from the school budget. In fact, the program is so self-sufficient that it pays for some school programs. According to Brown, the program has contributed funds to buying memory boards

for the high school, and has financially supported other programs and guest speakers.

"We always come out in the black. My goal is to come out \$1 ahead of what I need. If I do that I'm happy," Brown said. In recent years, the program has done "very well," and has had enough money to start the next year off in "good shape." The program's expenses include the part time salaries of the director, the administrative assistant, instructor and custodial fees, advertising, direct mail, catalogs and office equipment.

The biggest advantage is convenience, and price. I feel we give lots of individual attention to students, and the price is within a person's reach. Many other institutions charge a great deal more.

MARY FITZPATRICK
COMMUNITY EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

Deborah Cody, owner of Cody Floral Designs in Arlington, has been an instructor in the program for 10 years. "It makes me feel good that the program is self-supporting, and can contribute to the public school system," she said. Cody teaches beginner and advance classes in flower design. Cody feels that community education programs offer a chance for people to get to know each other, and create a bond within the community. She added that her classes at Arlington Community Education always get particularly good enrollment, which is 15 to 18 students per class. Cody has taught in other nearby community education programs.

Mary Fitzpatrick, an Arlington resident who has been teaching word processing in the program for more than 10 years, feels there are many advantages to community programs.

"The biggest advantage is convenience, and price," she said. "I feel we give lots of individual attention to students, and the price is within a person's reach. Many other institutions

charge a great deal more."

Fitzpatrick finds that students really appreciate what they get out of a class after they have taken one. "People don't understand that they will get so much out of it. It surprises them when a course offers so much," she said.

For the first time, the Arlington Center for the Arts is offering three courses through the community education program. Art center director Elaine Laughlin said, "When I first came on board, people said they wanted us to hold classes in the schools. It was a request from the parents, so we started modestly with three children's classes."

The community education program has done very little with arts for children, so the arts center is offering two jewelry making classes and a bookmaking class.

Laughlin said, "We are trying to reach more people. Community ed is a tried and true successful program and we want to tap into that. If these are successful, we'd like to do more."

According to Laughlin, Brown was very receptive to offering the art center classes through community education. "Jim Brown is really interested in offering arts programs," she said. "We provide the staff."

Registration for the classes is off to a slow start, Laughlin thinks, because people don't expect to see classes from the art center off-site.

Registration at the Art Center is also down from last year. "I think because of the storms," Laughlin said. "Our registration is dangerously slow." The art center offers 50 different classes, including drawing and painting, improvisation and performance, architecture, and creative sculpture, all for children. There is a new yoga class for adults, as well as pastels, paper mache, and one- and two-day workshops in decorative arts. Classes begin Jan. 22, and registration is accepted until that date. Call 648-6220 for more information.

Registration for community education programs officially ended Tuesday, Jan. 16, but registration for classes that are being held is accepted until the date of the first class. Classes that did not receive the minimum amount of registrations by Tuesday will be canceled and therefore unavailable for this session. For more information call 646-1000, Ext. 3125.

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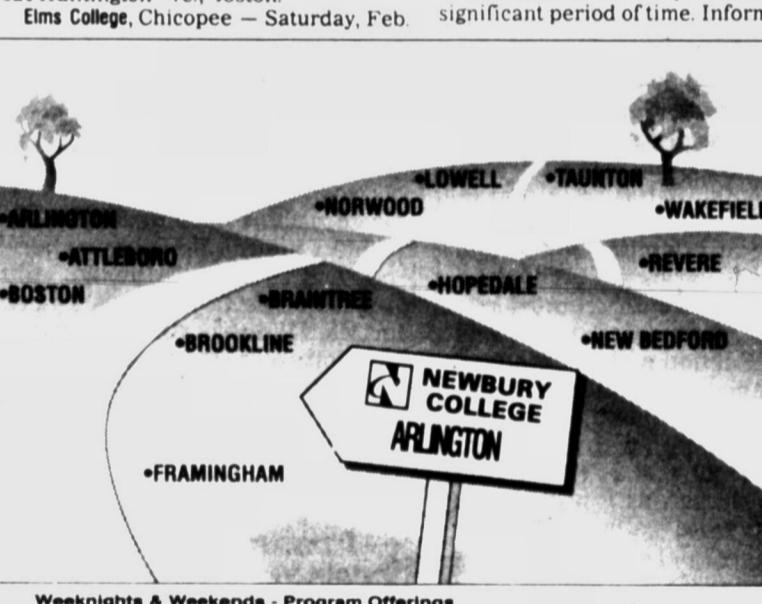
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